

Mr. David Landry, Owner
ID Coopers Restaurant, Putnam, CT
146 Park Road, 860- 928-0501
Testimony in Support of Raised Bill 6358 AAC Additional

OTB Facilities

February 10, 2009

Dear Senator Stillman, Representative Dargan and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

My name is David Landry and I am the owner of JD Coopers, a restaurant and sports bar located in Putnam. I have operated the restaurant for nineteen (19) years and it has become somewhat of an institution in the northeast corner of the state. I am excited about the opening of a branch in my sports bar and feel the relationship with Autotote will be beneficial for my business, my patrons as well as the local community.

Simulcasting is critical to its success. Needless to say when people go to a sports bar they expect to see the action whether it's a baseball game or a horse race. As someone new to all this, it is rather surprising that viewing a live horse race requires legislation in Connecticut.

As we are all aware, we are in a difficult economic period and restaurants are being hit particularly hard. This is an opportunity for me to incorporate a new business into my restaurant in an effort to attract new customers who might not normally visit my establishment. There will be a number of great marketing opportunities that will hopefully revitalize my business. I am excited about this opportunity.

I am not a horse racing fan, but I have friends who like going to the races and they assured me that this will be a great addition to my business. Quite frankly, this is critical to the long term success of ID Coopers. Without it, I'm not sure what the future will hold.

I urge this committee and the state legislature approve Raised Bill 6358.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony,

David Landry

Owner - JD Coopers